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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Formation of North Vietnam Preparatory Committee to Consider the Proposal for National Consultative Assemblies

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As a result of Bao Dai's proposal to create one central, or alternatively three regional representative consultative assemblies, a meeting was held in Hanoi on 17 April 1951 to elect the preparatory committee for North Vietnam. The following is an account of this meeting.

1. Tran Van Tuyen, Secretary of State to the President, who supervised the formation of this preparatory committee, issued invitations to approximately 100 persons in Hanoi known to be active in politics. Forty-one of those invited attended the meeting. Notable absentees were Nguyen Xuan Chu and Le Thanh, representatives of the Party of Vietnam Patriots (Vietnam Ai Quoc Dang), and Nguyen Manh Ha, former Minister of Economics.
2. The meeting had only begun when objection was interposed by Le Thanh, a leading member of the National Popular Party, that the meeting was not representative of all North Vietnam since it consisted entirely of residents of Hanoi. Tran Van Tuyen, admitting the validity of this objection, pointed out the urgency of the matter and stated it had not been possible to summon a more widely representative group. He also denied the meeting had been called merely to endorse decisions reached by the committee of South Vietnam.
3. The following were then elected to preside over the meeting:

President: Hoang Nam Hung

An old revolutionary who spent 30 years in political exile in China.

Secretary: Bui Diem

Member of the National Popular Party
and editor of the newspaper Quoc Dan.

Secretary: Nguyen "uyen Linh

Journalist with no party affiliations.

4. A representative of the Vietnam Cach Monh Dong Minh Hoi protested that the meeting was acting as a committee instead of electing one, and suggested they proceed with the election of the committee without wasting time on preliminaries. Thereupon Le Thang called for a vote on the proposal that all present be designated members of the preparatory committee. A majority

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affirmative vote on this proposal brought forth still further objection from some members, including Hoang Co Binh, a local dentist and director of the Nationalist journal Giang Son. At the suggestion of Tran Trung Dung, director of the Catholic Nationalist newspaper Thoi Bao, the original vote was declared void and the meeting proceeded with the election of the preparatory committee as listed below:

President	Hoang Co Binh	No Party
Vice President	Dr. Phan Huy Quat	National Popular Party
Secretary	Tran Trung Dung	Catholic
Members	Xuyen	Catholic
	Tri Hai	Buddhist
	Cung Dinh Quy	Vietnam Quoc Dan Dang (VNQDD)
	Le Thang	National Popular Party
	Do Dinh Dao	VNQDD
	Thai Vinh Thinh	No Party
	Nguyen Duy Quang	No Party
	Ngô Thuc Dich	VNQDD
	Ngô Van	National Popular Party
	Hoang Nam Hung	No Party
	Vu Vinh Thang	No Party
	Nguyen Dang Thuc	No Party
	Le Quang Luat	Catholic, representative of Le Hua Tu, Bishop of Phat Dien.

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